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By: Terrie Lindquist  
Terrie Lindquist

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Stephen Paul Fenton, et al.

Filed: 07/25/2003

Serial No. 10/627,853

For: NON-ORIENTING TUBING  
HANGER SYSTEM WITH A FLOW CAGE

§ Docket No. V2002009

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Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Jennifer Hawkins Gay

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Although Applicant referred to some of the substance of the telephonic interview between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney, in an overabundance of caution, Applicant files this Statement of the Substance of the Interview.

Before the telephonic interview on February 14, 2006, Applicant provided proposed claims to the Examiner with a proposed amendment to claim 1, and italicized clauses in claim 9 that Applicant wanted to discuss with the Examiner. After reviewing the proposed claims, the

Examiner initiated the telephonic interview and indicated that the Examiner thought that the proposed amendments to claim 1 would place claim 1 and its dependent claims in condition for allowance.

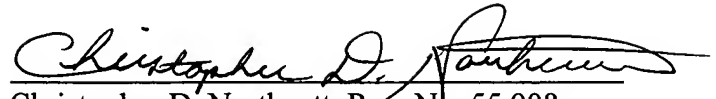
The italicized provisions of claim 8 in light of U.S. Patent No. 6,557,629, issued to Wong et al. (Wong). Applicant's attorney noted that Wong did not disclose a production hanger having a string of production tubing extending to a production depth within the subsea well. The Examiner reiterated that the Examiner was combining Wong's mandrel 38 and production tubing 20. An agreement was reached that the tool in Wong would not be used during production operations because the tool in Wong renders the valves inoperable when mandrel 38 extends through valves 22, 26 (Wong, Figure 3). The Examiner indicated that method claim 19 should be in condition for allowance in light of this discussion.

Applicant also noted that holes 102 of diffusion element 98 were positioned so that fluid could flow directly from apertures 114 without being diverted around sleeve 44, and that Applicant did not believe that the diverter ports had to be positioned at a substantially opposite circumferential position from the hanger port to be patentable over Wong. An agreement was also generally reached regarding adding a "wherein" statement to the diverter port clause in claims 8 and 17, because Wong did not disclose at least one diverter port...wherein flow of production fluid is diverted circumferentially around at least a portion of the tubing hanger to the at least one diverter port.

Applicant does not have any disputes at this time with either the Interview Summary, or the Examiner's Substance of Interview provided by the Examiner that was attached to the Interview Summary.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 9, 2006



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